VCU Magazine

Virginia Commonwealth University

Summer 1983

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VCU Magazine

Volume 12, Number 2
Summer 1983

A publication for the alumni and friends of Virginia Commonwealth University

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Each issue of *VCU Magazine* details only a few of the interesting aspects of Virginia Commonwealth University. The opinions expressed in *VCU Magazine* are those of the author and are not necessarily those of VCU.

Located in Virginia's capital city, Richmond, VCU traces its founding date to 1838. Today, VCU is the third largest state-aided university in Virginia and enrolls over 20,000 students on its academic and medical campuses.

VCU Magazine is produced quarterly by the Office of University Publications.

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VCU PUBLICATIONS

Cover illustration by Scott Wright

An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action University

Roosevelt revisited

By Melvin Urofsky

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the New Deal, VCU joined with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, the University of Texas, and the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library to sponsor a symposium at the Johnson Library in Austin, Texas. Melvin Urofsky, professor of history, attended the symposium and recalls some of its more interesting moments in vignette style.

On March 4, 1933, the entire social and economic fabric of the country appeared to be unraveling.

In the unparalleled prosperity of the Twenties many had been able to agree with the 1928 Republican presidential candidate, Herbert Hoover, that the nation would soon eliminate poverty. Now poverty stalked the land, with nearly 30 percent of the workforce unemployed. Private aid had been exhausted, and in every city of the nation men and women fought for food scraps from garbage pails. Alongside railroad yards, tens of thousands of people, evicted from their homes because they could no longer meet rent or mortgage payments, lived in tarpaper and cardboard shantytowns they dubbed "Hoovervilles." Hundreds of thousands of men and boys, unable to find work and unwilling to drain family resources, took to road and rail. Night indeed seemed to have fallen when New York ordered its banks closed to avert further failures. Wall Street, the heart of the great prosperity boom, stood silent and deserted.

The man who stood on the Capitol steps to take the oath of office from Chief Justice Hughes had no magical cure to offer. But in stark contrast to the weary and crushed Hoover, the incoming president exuded faith both in America and its people. In an oft-quoted phrase, Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." When Hoover had said it, a disbelieving America had scoffed; with Roosevelt they took heart.

The new chief executive also recognized that old ideologies had failed, and while he had no blueprint for the future, he would experiment. Government could not sit back while one-third of the nation was ill-housed, ill-clothed, and ill-fed. It had, at the very least, to *try* to help, and if one plan failed, why then, try something else. Franklin Roosevelt raised political pragmatism to the level of statesmanship.

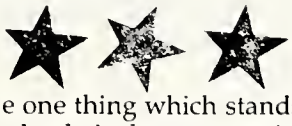
In the Hundred Days that followed, and in the six and a half years between his inaugural and the outbreak of World War II, Roosevelt and the New Deal transformed American political, social, and economic life as no administration had done before or has done since. A veritable flood of legislation tackled nearly every problem confronting the nation, and in many cases succeeded in solving them. In labor, minimum wages, maximum hours, unemployment insurance, and collective bargaining; in banking and finance, an overhaul of the Federal Reserve System, government insurance of deposits, and regulation of the stock market; in conservation, the planting of millions of trees to prevent erosion, and the magnificent Tennessee Valley Authority; and the list goes on—Social Security, farm parity, public works, patronage of the arts, and many more.

There were, of course, failures, including such spectacular disasters as the National Recovery Administration, and the argument has been made that war,

and not the New Deal, cured the Depression. Perhaps so, but until it did, FDR kept people's hopes alive while the various alphabet agencies enabled them to weather the worst economic crisis in American history. In doing so, the New Deal reversed many long held notions about the proper relations between government and its citizens, and those reforms still dominate the American political landscape.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the New Deal, to examine its programs in historical perspective, and to evaluate its continuing impact on American life, VCU joined with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, the University of Texas, and the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library to sponsor a symposium at the Johnson Library in Austin, Texas. For three days historians, political scientists, veterans of the New Deal, and current political leaders discussed not only what happened in the past, but the legacy of that past to our day. In formal sessions, as well as over drinks and coffee, academicians and practitioners mingled, shared information, and swapped tales in an effort to recapture the fervor and the flavor of one of the most exciting decades in American history.

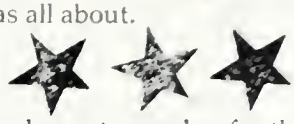
It would be impossible to detail in a brief article the substance of the more than 12 formal sessions; plans are afoot to publish the papers and speeches. Nor can one really do justice to the countless informal meetings which, even though ephemeral, lent a particular quality to the conference. Perhaps the best way to capture that quality is through a series of vignettes, of impressions, of a unique conference.



The one thing which stands out most clearly is the constant intermingling of historian and politician. From the opening plenary session, which Lady Bird Johnson and former Texas senator Ralph Yarborough attended, there were few purely academic sessions. Some of the historians, unused to the presence of so many notables, were initially ill at ease, but before long an easy camaraderie developed, and they began to talk about the one thing they all had in common—a deep interest in the New Deal. In some cases, we deliberately arranged the mix. Thus in a session on New Deal welfare programs, after excellent papers by Clarke Chambers of the University of Minnesota and Jim Patterson of Brown University, Wilbur Cohen gave the commentary. Cohen went to Washington as a young idealist in the Thirties, worked on Social Security in the Roosevelt and Truman years, and under Lyndon Johnson became Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. He took the insights offered by Chambers and Patterson and told how those responsible for these programs had dealt with these very ideas nearly 50 years ago.

In another session on "Women and the New Deal," one of the panelists had discussed the Women's Party, which had pushed for an Equal Rights Amendment in the Thirties. India Edwards, now 87 years old and a former Democratic Party national committeewoman, took issue with the speaker, only to have Esther Peterson, best known for her work as a consumer advocate, rise to argue with "her good friend India" and confirm the view of the academician, who was probably 40 years her junior.

One scene which again illustrates this point occurred at a dinner given for us by the Chancellor of the University of Texas system. Representatives Claude Pepper of Florida and Jake Pickle of Texas, who had just flown in from Washington to join us, sat at a table surrounded by historians. They talked not only about the founding of Social Security, but what they were doing right then in trying to save the system from people who didn't understand what it was all about.



The keynote speaker for the second morning, John Kenneth Galbraith, reminded the audience that Roosevelt's charisma spread beyond America's borders. As a young man in the Thirties, Galbraith and other Canadians would frequently go down to Detroit to look for work in the auto factories after the harvest in Ontario had been completed. He soon discovered that many of his countrymen were voting in the American elections, using the names of deceased voters still on the election rolls and supplied by local Democratic ward leaders. "I was still somewhat of a purist in those days," Galbraith recalled, "and in very shocked tones I asked my fellow Canadians how they could presume to vote for dead men. The answer I invariably received was that 'if so-and-so were still alive, he would vote for Roosevelt.' In Detroit, at least in 1936, Franklin Roosevelt could verily say: 'I am the resurrection.'

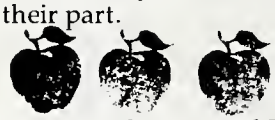
Following Galbraith's talk, a panel of New Deal participants recalled some of their own experiences. Virginia Foster Durr spoke movingly of her decades-long fight to repeal the poll tax, which discriminated not only against blacks, but also women and poor whites as well. In 1933, she noted, only 12 percent of the adult population could cast ballots in Virginia, with the rest disenfranchised by the poll tax.

Lady Bird Johnson is perhaps the most beloved person alive in Texas today, and it is easy to understand why after seeing her in action. She attended nearly all the sessions, and in the various social

events she moved easily from one group to another, thanking all of us for coming to Texas to make this event so successful. At the various lunches she made sure that both historians and politicians were invited to sit at her table, and she flattered and won all of us over by really listening to what we said. When she went up to the platform to introduce one of the plenary panels, 1,100 people in the audience spontaneously gave her a standing ovation, and she somewhat embarrassedly shushed us and told us to sit down. Just how well she listens, and hears, was soon demonstrated to everyone.

After one of the panels, questions and comments were invited from the floor. One young woman began a long and rambling comment in which she several times identified herself as a born-again Christian, a point whose relevancy was for the most part lost on the audience. She then tried to elicit some response from the panel on what the New Deal had done to the Christian ethic of brotherly love, and of one's personal responsibility to others. When she sat down, the chairman asked if there were other questions, apparently unable, like the rest of us, to fathom what the young woman had meant.

At this point Mrs. Johnson stood, and said she thought the question should be answered, and then rephrased it. Prior to the New Deal, charity had been primarily a private matter; the New Deal had made it a public function, and in doing so, had it allowed people to escape their individual obligations to help others in trouble? With the question now made clear, several of the panelists responded, and with a vehemence few of the younger members of the audience had expected. "God forbid we should go back to those days," said one, "where if you sought help from private agencies you had to endure a lecture on your moral failings before they would give you a cup of soup." Others picked up on this theme that private charity before 1933 degraded the recipient. If nothing else, the Depression had shown that good people could have their lives destroyed by events beyond their control, and their need for assistance implied absolutely no moral failings on their part.



Some people expected James Roosevelt's talk to be a rather maudlin "I remember Daddy." Instead it turned into one of the most moving parts of the conference. The president's oldest son had been in the Pacific when news of FDR's death came, and the Navy flew him home as quickly as possible, but too late for the funeral. He was walking in New York, waiting for his mother to come down from Hyde Park, when a taxi pulled over to the sidewalk. The driver jumped out, and after confirming that this was, indeed, young Roosevelt, began to thank him for all that FDR had done for the poor people of the country, and how much he had meant to all those scared first by the Depression and then by war. At this point the cabbie's fare, a Wall Street banker, yelled out the window, "I'm not paying you to talk about that s.o.b. He should have died years ago." The driver yanked open the door, reached in, grabbed the banker by his lapels, and deposited him in the gutter. "By that point," said James, "I was putting space behind me."

Compared to the present day, when almost every move a president makes is recorded on videotape, movie newsreel crews in the Thirties rarely filmed an entire speech. The cost of film was high, and so more often than not they turned the cameras on for a while, then off, and all we have are excerpts. Until recently, the only full-length newsreel we had of a Roosevelt speech was his December 8, 1941 war message to Congress.

For the past several years, Bill Utterback of Amarillo, Texas, has been working in his spare time on a project to unearth and then piece together film clips of Roosevelt addresses. He has searched newsreel archives and contacted private photographers, many of them amateurs, who might have been present at the speeches. At lunch on the first day, we became the first audience since those who gathered in Washington on March 4, 1933, to see and hear the entire inaugural address. Using stock footage of the crowd, audio recordings, and film from dozens of sources, Utterback enabled us to follow Roosevelt and Hoover in the limousine from the White House to the Capitol, watch FDR walk forward, leaning on the arm of his son Jimmy, take the oath from the Chief Justice, and then give his talk. Some of the phrases were, of course, familiar, but what came through, despite the occasional poor quality of film and voice, was the energy, the drive, the commitment to act. One could sense the lift Roosevelt's speech gave to a nation disheartened by depression and the unwillingness of the Hoover administration to help the citizenry.

In addition to the public presentations, the conference was marked by extensive informal socializing as well as arranged events. Harry Middleton, the director of the Johnson Library, put on a brilliant display of logistical competence. Whether it required providing coffee for a break, lunch for 150 for three days running, or transportation between hotels, the Library, and other places, Middleton and his staff made the entire affair run like clockwork. But they outdid themselves with the gala evening sponsored by the Johnson Library Foundation, the people who put up the money for the conference. After a champagne reception, we settled down for an evening's entertainment orchestrated by Liz Carpenter, former press secretary to Mrs. Johnson, and now special consultant to the Johnson Library.

For those of us who were there, it will be an evening never to be forgotten. John Houseman served as master of ceremonies. Joe Glazer sang folk and labor songs of the Thirties, something he started doing as a youngster back in the New Deal. Shana Alexander spoke about how "Happy Days Are Here Again" became the Roosevelt theme song; she knew, because her father had written the tune. That chronicler of the common folk, Studs Terkel, recalled how he "had graduated law school in 1934, and thereupon became a gangster." In fact, many of the soap operas of that era originated in Chicago studios, and Terkel earned his living for several years as the "heavy" on those shows. The audience howled as John Henry Faulk talked about a real problem in Texas during the New Deal—"we was Republican-ignorant, because we had had open season on 'em so long they was nigh extinct." In a more serious vein, Carpenter paid tribute to Frances Perkins, the first woman Cabinet member, and Mrs. Johnson recalled Eleanor Roosevelt. Then Barbara Jordan had 1,100 people completely silent as she read the flood section from John Steinbeck's classic, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

In addition to chairing the evening, John Houseman reminisced about the days when he and Orson Welles directed the WPA Black Theater Project. Welles came up with the idea of performing "Macbeth," but setting it in 19th-century Haiti. The witches' scene, which Houseman called one of Shakespeare's least workable pieces of theater, suddenly made marvelous sense if one substituted witch doctors. Because of the very broad job classification employed by the WPA, Houseman and Welles found themselves with one genuine witch doctor and several assistants, all eager to help all they could. But first they needed drums.

"What kind shall we order?" asked Welles, only to be told that proper drums could not be bought—they had to be made. For that, the shaman explained, he would need five goats. Houseman dubiously but dutifully filled out the proper government requisition forms for "goats—five," and in due course the animals were delivered. That evening shaman, assistants, and goats disappeared into the basement of the theater, with no one asking any questions. The next morning, "proper drums" could be heard.

The "voodoo Macbeth," as some people called it, opened to generally favorable reviews, but some Republican newspapers, opposed to the WPA, pressured their drama critics into panning it. When Welles and Houseman arrived at the Harlem theater one morning soon after the play had opened, they found the witch doctor in their office. In his hand he held a review by Percy Drummond of the very Republican *New York Herald-Tribune*, and the dean of the city's drama critics. In the piece, Drummond lambasted the show, the actors, and the whole concept, which, he claimed, degraded Shakespeare.

"This is bad?" asked the shaman.

"Yes," said Houseman, "it is bad."

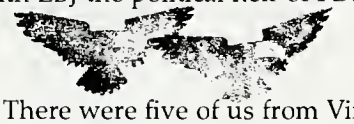
"This man is evil?"

"Yes," agreed Houseman, "this man is evil."

The next morning when Houseman and Welles arrived in their taxi, they were met by a highly agitated night watchman. There had been terrible noises coming from the theater basement all night long, and the neighbors had complained. The watchman had finally gone in to look around once it had gotten light, but had found no one in the building, and no damage. Did Houseman know anything about it?

Ah, yes, Houseman did. On the way uptown, they had heard on the radio that the respected Drummond had been taken to the hospital in the middle of the night with an as yet undiagnosed malady. Two days later, the dean of New York drama critics departed from this world.

While it has been 50 years from the beginning of the New Deal, it has also been nearly 20 years since Lyndon Johnson became president and launched the Great Society. Johnson had come to Washington as a congressional aide, and Roosevelt had named him NYA coordinator for Texas. He then ran for Congress on a 100 percent New Deal platform, was elected, and began his political career. Only 30 years separated New Deal from Great Society, and many of the young idealists of the Roosevelt Administration returned as senior officials in the Johnson era. If there was a subtheme to this conference, it was the Great Society as the extension and culmination of the New Deal, with LBJ the political heir of FDR.



There were five of us from Virginia at the conference. Susan Kennedy (history) and Susan Feiner (economics), my colleagues from VCU, were joined by David Shannon and Henry Abraham of the University of Virginia. But the Old Dominion had still another representative when its governor, Charles S. Robb, delivered the closing talk.

"Some of you may be wondering why I am here," he began, "and so am I. In fact, when I was first asked, I said no. I am not an historian, and there is no reason for me to be on the program. Then came a second call, informing me that this was a family obligation. That reason I could understand."

Robb spoke of the legacy of the New Deal, of important programs for people and the threat they now faced because of lack of revenue to maintain them. Somehow, he said, a synthesis has to be found in which human needs, national priorities, and social resources could be balanced. And he quoted Roosevelt that while history would judge whether or not we were successful, the scales are certainly tipped in favor of those who act out of love and compassion.

All the while Robb spoke, Congressman Jack Kemp of New York, who provided a conservative view on continuation of New Deal policies, leaned sharply toward him, half out of his seat, one ambitious young politician sizing up a potential opponent.

Although the regular program ended after luncheon on the third day, a number of us were invited to the Johnson Ranch that evening for a Texas barbeque. By now Harry Middleton, Wilbur Cohen, and I, the three conference co-chairmen, were well-nigh euphoric over how well everything had gone, a feeling obviously shared by the others present. Once again, Mrs. Johnson made sure her guests were comfortable, and as she circulated among them, I was amazed at how well she remembered things about people whom she had met only briefly in the preceding days.

After a while some people were asked to say a few words. Claude Pepper recalled stories about Roosevelt, and Vernon Jordan, the former director of the Urban League, spoke about Lyndon Johnson and civil rights. Joe Glazer sang "The Ballad of LBJ," which he had written, literally, that afternoon, and then Liz Carpenter led us in "Amazing Grace."

The next morning several of us stood in the Austin airport waiting for our flights, still glowing from three days of an unusual experience. For myself, it had marked nearly two years of work, but the success of the conference came from the mix of academics and participants, and from the joint efforts of all the sponsoring institutions. VCU can well be proud of its role in making it happen.

Melvin Urofsky, Ph.D., is professor of history at the university.

Illustration by Scott Wright

Exhibiting
a flair for the contemporary

By Cynthia McMullen

Like many of VCU's Franklin Street facilities, the Anderson Gallery has enjoyed a colorful past. Built as a stable in 1888, it is now one of the largest university temporary exhibition galleries in the country.

With a capability of showing seven exhibits simultaneously, the gallery, says director Marilyn Zeitlin, is gradually changing and redefining its role in the Richmond art scene. "We serve the university and local community by giving them the opportunity to see work of national and international stature as well as that of local and student artists," she says.

According to Bruce Koplin, associate professor of art history, the gallery's emphasis has always been on contemporary art. Koplin, gallery director from 1971-77, said the Anderson Gallery's situation is unique in that it does not have to sell work to meet overhead. Thus it can address specific issues, concerns, and directions with more freedom than similar spaces outside the university.

Charles Stainback, registrar/preparator, says the gallery is one of the few exhibition spaces in the Southeast showing primarily contemporary art. "Marilyn is bringing in exciting, important work; we're showing art to which people should be and are being exposed." He says people can receive a visual education by trusting Zeitlin's feeling for potentially important work. "She's not afraid to promote lesser known artists whose work she believes in."

Focusing on the gallery's mission Zeitlin says, "We show difficult, controversial, and experimental work since we are part of an educational system. People need to disagree and debate as well as enjoy. We try to provide a place where accessible art can be enjoyed and provocative art can be discussed."

According to Stainback, the opportunities for enjoyment and debate are endless. "I know of very few galleries that are this active," he said. "We change exhibits about once a month." About 45 to 50 exhibits are shown each year, and an average of 100 people visit the gallery daily.

Other exhibition spaces in the Richmond area fill various needs, says Zeitlin, such as serving the collector public, providing service space for artists, or exhibiting standard museum shows. "But at VCU I think the questions are sometimes more important than the answers," says Zeitlin. "We want to give our viewers something to think about, whether it be use of light, color as imagery, or the role of art in politics."

In addition to its attempts to offer educational services to the community, the gallery operates as an extension of the teaching function for visual arts students in the School of the Arts. Working in the gallery gives student assistants a chance to witness and participate in the inner activities of a museum. Students exhibiting in the gallery have the chance to gain a perspective on museum standards and work in a professional setting. They get a behind-the-scenes look at operating a gallery and the amount of work necessary to successfully plan, organize, hang, and show an exhibit. In addition the gallery's permanent collection of about 1,000 pieces affords opportunities for research in art history and museology.

In her continuing search for stimulating exhibits, Zeitlin travels extensively and sees as much art as she can in galleries, museums, and artists' studios. Some artists selected to show are recommended by other artists, and occasionally an unsolicited gallery or artist approaches her with ideas. In cooperation with the School of the Arts, visiting artists such as Fred Escher, Sharon Gold, Denise Green, and William Wegman are featured. Some shows are produced in collaboration with groups or galleries like the Richmond Artists

Association and Virginia Museum's Institute of Contemporary Art.

Shows are generally divided equally between regional, national/international, and student artists. Within these categories Zeitlin always tries to offer a device for continuity. The "Masters in Contemporary Drawing" exhibits, for example, will bring together works in that genre by a variety of artists, both well-known and unknown, throughout the fall season.

Crossovers in the general categories are not uncommon. For example, the recent "Alumni of the Masonic Temple" show featured work by nearly 50 artists, the majority of whom attended or taught at VCU and many of whom are now locally or regionally known for their work.

The group theme exhibits display a wide range of talent, media, and artistic fame. Exhibits have included photographic portraits by VCU graduate students; self-published books by Soviet artists, SAMIZDAT; color photography by John Divola, James Henkel, Bart Parker, and John Pfahl; painted pots by "Luna Garcia"; and VCU student book art. "Aspects of Perception," funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, featured work by Enrique Castro-Cid, Benni Efrat, William Ramage, Thomas Macaulay, John Davies, Nahum Tivet, David Leach, and Heidi Glück. Black folk art from the collection of Regenia Perry was shown in "What it is," and "Messages: Words and Images" displayed work in which verbal content functions as, in, or with visual imagery. Artists whose work was shown included Laurie Anderson, Joseph Beuys, Hans Haacke, Duane Michals, Francesc Torres, Mitchell Kriegman, Hanne Darboven, and Jon Borofsky.

Major solo shows during Zeitlin's two years at the gallery have included such established artists as Michael Goldberg, Paul Rotterdam, Pat Adams, Craig Kauffman, and Walter Dusenbery. "For younger artists, unless they are unusually productive, a solo show can be difficult, so our solo shows generally feature mature artists who have collected a large body of work from which outstanding examples can be gleaned," Zeitlin explains. "We do, however, want to give young artists a chance to try their wings and learn something about the larger art world." To that end students receiving their bachelor's or master's degrees in fine art are showcased each year, often to later return as established artists.

One of Zeitlin's immediate goals is to introduce video and performing art to the gallery. Eight of the most recent shows have been documented on video tape, including tapes of the artists with studio footage, as well as exhibition tapes on the actual work. The tapes form a permanent archive and can be used as educational tools in the classroom and as a basis for grant applications. They may also be shared with other museums. Video art will be shown as part of a "High Tech" exhibit now in the planning stages. A nontraditional, participatory look at art and technology, it will make innovative use of photography, computer, video, holography, and sound.

As the gallery continues to expand its offerings and its efforts to work in conjunction with other museums and galleries, it becomes easier to bring in new artists and audiences. "People from all over are becoming more aware of the Anderson Gallery," says Stainback. "It's a progressive, energetic space, and it's the art we show and the way we present it that gives the gallery its credibility." ❀

Cynthia McMullen is an editor in the Office of University Publications.

Video tape by Thom Madison

Photography by Joanne Ross

SAMIZDAT, **video tape documentation**

By exhibiting international, national, regional, and student artists the Anderson Gallery begins to make contemporary art more comprehensible to the general public.

Chuck Magistro, **Tortola**

SAMIZDAT

D. Jack Solomon,
Reminiscing Yesteryear

Walter Dusenbery, **stone sculpture installation**

Group theme shows such as "Aspects of Perception" and "Messages: Words and Images" combine individual artistic expressions based on a common concept.

Les Levine, **Steer**

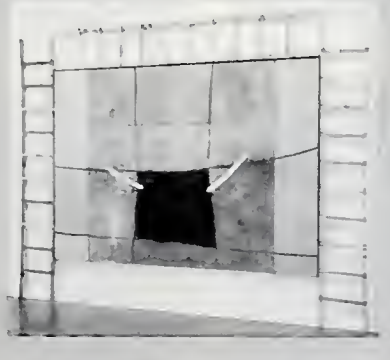
Kay Hines, **Notorola**

"What it is," a collection of work of black folk artists, helped give new importance to an ongoing and recently recognized cultural tradition.

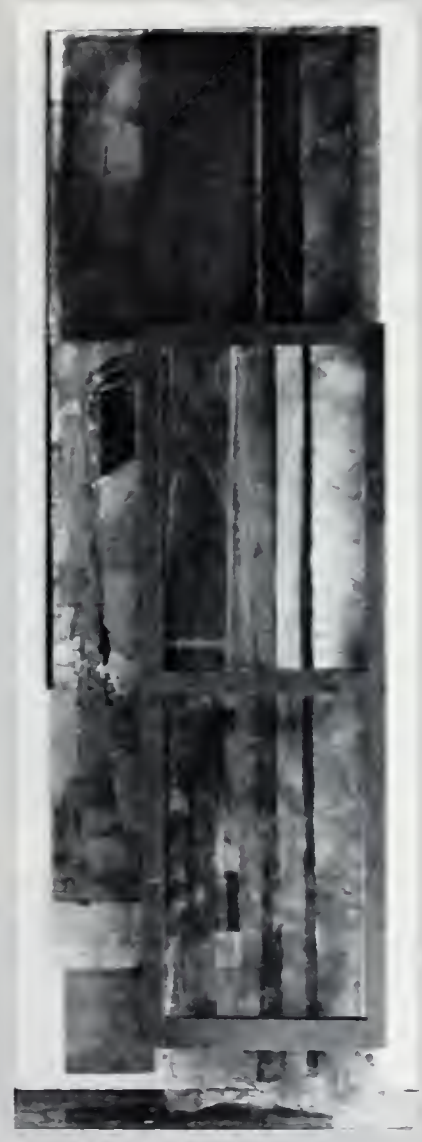
David Butler, **Untitled**

Jim Luton, **Rembrandt van Rijn**

The "Alumni of the Masonic Temple" exhibition sponsored by the Friends of the Anderson Gallery commemorated the art, the artists, and the thriving art community in Richmond.



Bernard Martin, **Jacob's Ladder**



Reni Gower, **Kresm**

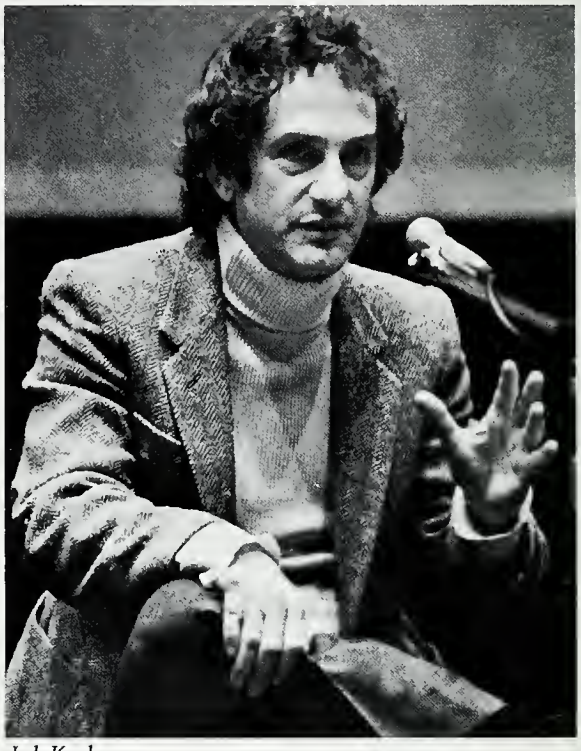
Greg Davidek, **Red Herring**

Student shows highlight the best work of B.F.A. and M.F.A. candidates and give them the opportunity to exhibit in a professional setting.

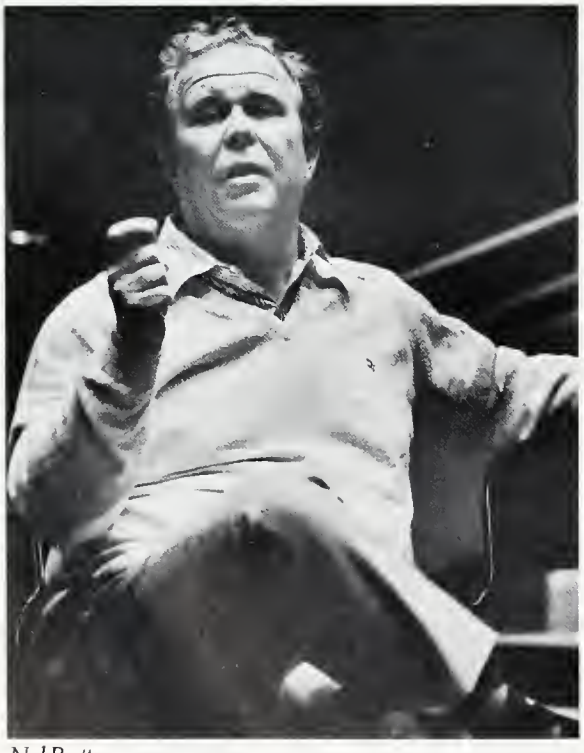
The VCU touch on Hollywood

By Ed Kanis

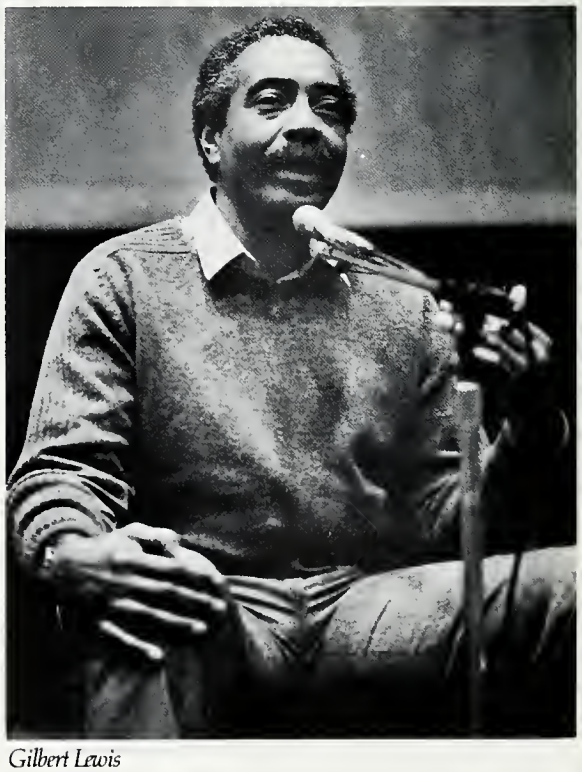
Barclay Lottimer



Lyle Kessler



Ned Beatty



Gilbert Lewis

Like a father raving about his first-born son, Barclay Lottimer (B.F.A. dramatic arts 1974) discusses his first film with pride and excitement.

What started three years ago and endured more than the customary succession of re-writes, re-edits, and alterations was released in the spring as the motion picture *Touched*. Lottimer, the film's executive producer, was the driving force that made the film go.

"Like most films it took a lot of time—probably too much time," Lottimer said. "At this point it's difficult for me to judge the film. But I am proud of it and know it is a credible motion picture.

"Most people have no idea of the logistics of doing what I did. They have no idea of how a movie is made or the degree of technical knowledge necessary to make a quality film. As producer my job is to bring all the pieces together and solve the problems."

No matter what the degree of logistical planning or technical knowledge, no film can be made without financial support. For that support Lottimer, a native Richmonder who grew up in the Bon Air section of the city, turned to his hometown. Much of the $3.5 million needed to make the movie came largely from the pockets of area investors willing to risk thousands on a novice producer many remembered as a child actor in the old Renaissance Dinner Theatre.

It was on the Renaissance stage that Lottimer developed a fond affection for theater. His first role, a speaking part in *The King and I*, developed purely by chance. The youngster scheduled to play the part became ill just before opening night. When the director began his search for a replacement, he had to look no farther than Lottimer, who at the time was working in the theater sweeping floors. Lottimer volunteered for the spot, and when the director asked him to recite one monologue, he executed perfectly. He was given the role as well as the lead in the theatre's next production.

While Lottimer continued as an actor in high school, he was beginning to develop an interest in producing and marketing theatre and other entertainment. That interest soon led him to Champlain College in Vermont. There, working directly with the college president, he helped bring a number of major groups to the school including Blood, Sweat, and Tears; Diana Ross; the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band; and Rod McKuen. "I helped make a lot of money for the college," Lottimer recalled.

Still, thoughts of acting had not completely vanished from Lottimer's psyche. And when an English professor asked him to take a small part in the college production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, he agreed. "I was hesitant about taking the part, Lottimer said, but I decided to accept."

That decision rekindled his interest in acting and prompted a decision to return to the stage full-time. "I knew I had to get back on stage so I called Tom Holloway (theatre department assistant chairman) and asked if I could enroll at VCU," Lottimer said. "I wanted to go to VCU because I knew I would have the opportunity to work with professionals there."

Once at the university Lottimer soon discovered his decision to return to the stage was a wrong one. "I realized I was probably the worst damn actor ever to walk on stage," Lottimer admitted. "Acting is like a muscle—you have to exercise it continuously to keep it strong, and I hadn't been doing that. I soon decided I was suited for the business of producing and marketing."

After graduation in 1974 Lottimer spent his time in New York, Europe, and Hollywood producing live theater. When Lottimer began pursuing film, he found the transition from theater rather easy. "I've always wanted to be in film," Lottimer explained. "I enjoy it more, and the results are quicker."

Results are what Lottimer's gotten with *Touched*, which opened to a capacity audience in a Richmond theater in April. The film, a poignant romance set on the boardwalk of Wildwood, New Jersey, centers around two mentally disturbed adults (Robert Hayes, star of *Airplane* and *Airplane II*, and Kathleen Beller, star of *Dynasty)* in a Pennsylvania mental hospital and the relationship that develops between them. Ned Beatty *(Network, Deliverance, Superman)*, whose son is now enrolled in the theatre department, appears in the film as a carnival barker along with Gilbert Lewis, who plays the part of a nurse orderly in the hospital. Lyle Kessler wrote the screenplay, which developed out of a project begun 14 years ago by his wife, Margaret Ladd, who plays the role of a mental patient in the television series *Falcon Crest*.

With the release of *Touched* Lottimer has begun working on other projects. He has signed Richard Dreyfuss to star in and John Frankenhimer to direct a film titled *Wilderness*. Lottimer described the film as an action adventure similar to *First Blood* and *Deliverance*. Preparations are also being made for two additional pictures, *Playback*, to be directed by Malcolm Clark who did *Upstairs, Downstairs*, and *Feathers*.

With these films Lottimer plans to continue fulfilling what he sees as the job of a producer. "The responsibility of a producer to an audience is two-fold: to make statements and to entertain. I believe that's what my films will do."

Photography by Whit Cox

Why men RAPE

By Laurel Bennett

She semi-struggled, but deep down inside I think she felt it was a fantasy come true. (Rapist, RR084)

It would be of little comfort to most women who have experienced the terror of rape to listen with detached interest to the sterile discussion of a rapist's view of his rape. In fact, for many victims, the trauma of rape is often so psychologically debilitating that the question of why a rape was committed is totally irrelevant.

According to the latest statistics compiled by the F.B.I., there were approximately 81,536 forceable rapes reported in 1981. But most professionals in the field agree that only one in five to one in 20 rapes are reported. Such staggering figures have prompted many people to investigate the causes of rape.

For the most part these studies have been made by psychiatrists and psychoanalysts and many of today's current beliefs about rapists are based on their work. In general such studies view rapists as disturbed men with distorted personalities who are filled with deep emotional problems. In other words, these individuals are just plain sick.

But there are two researchers at VCU, Dr. Diana Scully and Dr. Joseph Marolla, both associate professors in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, who disagree with the psychiatric explanation. They assume that in many ways rapists are no different from most men. They believe that rapists are social products, that certain attitudes men learn in our culture contribute to the idea that sexually aggressive behavior is all right, and that the act of rape is just the extreme example of that learned attitude. As Scully explained, "What we are claiming is that 95 percent of rapists are not bizarre, lurking maniacs."

With a grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health, Scully and Marolla began a two-year study in 1980 designed to test their assumptions. Their work focused on convicted rapists currently serving sentences in seven of Virginia's medium to maximum security prisons. Using a 100-page psychological test, the researchers interviewed a total of 115 men convicted of raping an adult female, contrasting the answers to data collected from 75 felons in the same prisons who had committed crimes other than rape including armed robbery and murder. Their research was designed to discover the rapists' relevant attitudes, motives, excuses, and justifications for their behavior.

Many of the questions involved

personal histories, attitudes about themselves and women, sexual experiences, and, emphasized Scully, "questions that had never been asked of rapists before such as the mechanics of how they did the rape, how they chose their victims, what they were looking for, and how they planned their crimes." Both researchers felt they were taking a unique approach to the study of rape for although recent projects have focused on the victim and the victim's response, there has been very little data on the rapist himself or what he thinks of his crime.

> Rape is a man's right. If a woman doesn't want to give it, the man should take it. Women have no right to say no . . . women are made to have sex. It's all they are good for . . . (Rapist, RR070)
>
> . . . It might have been rape to some people but not to my way of thinking . . . I've done that kind of thing before . . . I'm guilty of sex and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, but not rape. (Rapist, RR057)

Both Scully and Marolla are convinced after doing their research that there is no universal answer to the question of why men rape. "What we learned," said Marolla, "was that no single explanation for rape—ours or the psychiatric one—exists. There are exceptions to every explanation."

But if these researchers learned the causes of rape cannot be neatly packaged, one thing they did learn was that when rapists talked about their crimes they either admitted or denied what they had done was rape.

According to Scully, some admitters defined what they had done as rape and, in retrospect, knew they had done something wrong. Other admitters did not think it was rape at the time it was occurring. However, both types of admitters used a variety of excuses claiming forces beyond their control led them to rape. In many cases drugs, alcohol, or emotional problems were used as the explanation for their actions. These factors allowed them to claim diminished control and thus relieve them of responsibility.

The deniers, on the other hand, were those rapists who admitted they had sexual contact, but disclaimed what they had done was rape. Deniers used justifications for their behavior and usually put the blame on their victims, even though in many cases a weapon was involved. "The deniers," said Scully, "conjured up every stereotype there has ever been about victims to justify that what they had done wasn't rape."

A typical example of a denier involved the case of a man who, armed with a bayonet, broke into a cleaner's to rob and while he was there raped the storekeeper. "Amazingly," said Scully, "he was still able to justify this behavior as a nonrape based on the way he explained the victim and what she did. According to the rapist the victim 'hadn't resisted, she didn't say no, and had enjoyed it.' Thus to the rapist this wasn't rape."

In analyzing their data Scully and Marolla observed that "as a result of the rapists' skillful use of excuses and justifications, almost no act is rape, and almost no man is a rapist."

To underscore how excuses and justifications are used by admitters and deniers, Scully cited a classic example which contrasted both types of rapists as they described the role alcohol or drugs had played in their crimes.

According to the data, the use of alcohol or drugs prior to the rape was claimed by over 77 percent of admitters and deniers. Describing admitters Scully said, "If you asked them if they were drunk or high, the majority of admitters said yes. Obviously it was in their interest to contend that such elements affected their behavior because clearly it explained that their capacity to control had been impaired. On the other hand, when you asked admitters if their victims were intoxicated or high, they said no. In fact there was no reason to argue that the victim was impaired since admitters had already excused their own behavior."

But just the opposite was true for deniers. "When asked if they were drunk or high, they said no," Scully explained. "Thus, it wasn't in the deniers' interest to claim that drugs or alcohol had diminished their capacity to remember events as they believed they had occurred. However, when asked if their victims were intoxicated or high, they said yes. Clearly deniers know they can use such a charge to discredit their victims and in so doing place the responsibility on the women and not on themselves."

Much of the researchers' data focus on such contrasts between admitters and deniers including how they define their crime, sexual violence, domination, anger, control, victim participation, or any number of other rape-related explanations.

Of the 115 rapists the researchers interviewed, only 17 percent considered themselves rapists. For these few men to define themselves as real rapists meant they could not find any excuses or justification to explain their behavior. And these men, the researchers concluded, were probably the worst off emotionally. "If most rapists don't consider themselves real rapists, the question then becomes how are they able to see themselves as average, normal males?" said Marolla. Both Scully and Marolla believe the admit/deny distinction helps to make that question understandable.

"Essentially this is what happens," explained Scully. "When people do something wrong they will invariably come up with an explanation for it. That's not confined to rapists. Everyone does it. The explanations people use are ones they know will be accepted, not some crazy excuse

like 'I got into an automobile accident because I forgot to brush my teeth this morning.' Society won't accept that; it doesn't make sense. When people come up with a socially acceptable excuse what they really are doing is attempting to show themselves in a good light, as good and moral people both to themselves and others. Rapists will attempt to do the same thing. They will use explanations that they know others will accept in order to show that they are not as bad as they appear."

> I hit her as hard as I could a man . . . I should not be in prison for what I did. I shouldn't have all this time for going to bed with a broad. (Rapist, RR029)

A point Scully and Marolla strongly emphasize in their discussion of rape is the idea that a cultural basis exists for these explanations. In the case of the rapists they feel these men learn to master a vocabulary that can be used to explain sexual violence against women in socially acceptable terms. For the researchers, both sexual violence and explanations for it are learned in the culture.

Scully explained that if society views rape as unusual or sick behavior then the result is the culture being left out of the offense. "So in seeing rape as unique behavior," she said, "we ignore that it is a common experience to pick up a novel and find rape scenes that seem enjoyable to both the rapist and the victim." Scully contends that over the last ten years pornography has changed from eroticism to violent-erotic acts. As an example she cited the increasing popularity of "snuff" shows, films which show the sex act culminating in the murder of the victim. Date rape is common and domination and control of women is found every day in television soap operas and in films. As sociologists Scully and Marolla believe that as part of the male socialization process these examples lead men to expect certain kinds of relationships with women.

> It was exciting to get away with it [rape], just being able to beat the system, not women. It was like doing something illegal and getting away with it. (Rapist, RR063)

Part of the researchers' study focused on comparing the answers to a number of questions they asked rapists with answers to the same questions from other convicted felons. From the beginning Scully and Marolla assumed there would be very few differences. Their data suggest they were correct. "Generally when we looked at rapists compared to other criminals, the differences in attitudes and beliefs were mostly in degree, not in kind," said Marolla. For example, one such difference was found in attitudes toward rape myths. Compared with other felons, rapists were more likely to believe in popular rape stereotypes such as women want to be raped, or that the victims more often than not were responsible for their own rape.

But when the personal histories comparing rapists to other felons were analyzed, the only conclusion the researchers could make was that convicted rapists, in terms of their backgrounds, are typical felons. "Many of the armchair theories that are around, such as rapists are more likely than other felons to be formerly abused children or are more likely to have been the product of broken or violent homes, just don't hold up. Our data showed the percentages were very small," said Scully.

> At the time, I didn't think it was rape. I just asked her nicely and she didn't resist [the rapist was armed with a bayonet] . . . It took about five years of reading and going to school [in prison] to change my mind about whether it was rape. I became familiar with the subtlety of violence . . . (Rapist, RR001)

With over 15,000 pages of data Scully and Marolla are still analyzing their findings. When their analysis is complete they will present their project in a forthcoming book. But from what they have already obtained, they are convinced there are lessons to be learned and taught.

One area that seems promising is the re-education of convicted rapists. "In treating rapists one thing they need is education about sex roles and sexuality," said Marolla. "They are fairly naive. The majority of rapists are very young, 16 to 22 years old, and their view of women is somewhat narrow." Scully envisions putting together a course that would focus on topics that might change the rapists' views of what they believe is a normal relationship with women. "Re-education means re-socialization," said Scully. "If you can get convicted rapists to change their beliefs about women, then when they get out of prison they may be less likely to rape again."

The researchers also know at some point in the future they must compare the data of their convicted criminals with a sample of men in the nonprison population in order to fully understand just how much the culture is contributing to a male's view of sexual violence and ultimately to rape. That comparison is a very important aspect of their research that has yet to be done.

But what the researchers are sure of is that the causes of rape are very complex and that new therapies and theories need a multi-dimensional approach. One question they now believe needs to be asked is not why some men rape, but instead, why some men don't rape. ❀

Laurel Bennett is an editor in the Office of University Publications.

Impressions of a university

By Garrett Epps

Last summer Garrett Epps, at the request of the Office of University Advancement, spent several weeks on the university's campuses and developed an article which captures some of the flavor of VCU. What follows are his impressions based on that stay.

Rutledge Dennis, associate professor of sociology and associate chairman of VCU's sociology/anthropology department, is a native of Charleston, South Carolina. A trim man with a neat, greying beard, Dennis speaks with the graceful low-country accent and solicitous good manners that mark the people of that proud and mournful port city, Richmond's only rival as the historic and spiritual capital of the Old South. And like most Charlestonians, white and black, Dennis retains a firm nostalgia for the place he was born. Recently he recalled the choice that faced him when he finished graduate school at Washington State University a decade ago.

"I longed to return (to Charleston)," he said. "But there was nothing there for me."

It is an old blues chorus, an American lament. For 100 years and more, ambitious and intelligent young people have lain awake in hundreds of small and not-so-small towns, listening to the train whistles in the night and dreaming of the good life waiting somewhere else. They yearn for the real American frontier, the big city, a place where they can use their talents and realize their dreams; soon they disappear into new lives and their native places know them no more.

Just so, in 1971, Dennis brought his special skills to a place that could use them—Richmond, Virginia. Here they have been put to use teaching and counseling white and black students and studying the life of his adopted city and state. That study recently bore fruit in a book, *The Politics of Annexation*, which Dennis co-wrote with John Moeser, associate professor of urban studies, which presents a thoughtful review of the storms that paralyzed Richmond city politics in the early 1970s.

As he reviewed the past decade, Dennis pronounced himself satisfied with the work he had chosen and the place he had done it. "The importance of this university has been overwhelming in this city in any number of ways," he said.

That importance—the huge, diverse, and complex impact of VCU on Richmond and the whole central Virginia area—is striking to someone from outside the university community who spends a few weeks getting to know its two campuses. By coincidence or not, the past decade and a half—roughly the lifespan of the merged university—has seen the greater Richmond area move decisively into the American big league. It is no longer a place to escape from, but rather, for thousands of people of all ages, a place to escape to—a prosperous, changing community which emerged from its Civil War dreams at the right moment to catch an updraft of history.

Families, individuals, and organizations have gravitated to Richmond, attracted by the Sunbelt climate, the amenities of life in a medium-sized city, the diversity of opportunity and the increasing sophistication of the population. VCU has been an important, if relatively unobtrusive, part of the attraction. In fact, its role in the area's growth has been pivotal. VCU is, in a way, like a large mountain, almost invisible to those who live on its slope. From day to day, few people think of the mountain or try to gauge its size and shape. But without it, their lives would be radically different, poorer, and flatter.

A growing city needs an urban university fully as much as it needs streets, water, police, and firefighters. The university trains doctors, bankers, scientists, business executives, nurses, the city's engineers, and entrepreneurs. It renews its workforce and equips them for new roles in a changing economy. It draws the intelligent and ambitious from other communities as students, faculty, and staff; it keeps the intelligent and ambitious natives at home. And it does something more, something intangible and invisible: it provides a retreat where those who know the area and its problems can reflect on its life and relate its concerns to the world outside. In that sense, a university is the soul of a city—and the story of VCU's growth is the story of a city growing a soul.

Like any growing organism VCU is a jumble of contradictions, diverse and sometimes confusing. Its many facets include the fast-moving self-confidence of the School of Medicine, the boomtown aggressiveness of the School of Business, the interdisciplinary excitement of the School of Basic Sciences, and the civic engagement of the School of Community and Public Affairs.

VCU's landscape is changeable and dramatic—ranging from the casual ferment of Shafer Street on a summer afternoon to the crowded technological limbo of the Head Trauma Unit's neurology intensive care unit, and from the gregarious uproar of a basketball game at the Richmond Coliseum to the lonely concentration of one young woman hunched over a computer console as the clock ticks toward midnight.

Any attempt to explain what the university is must either be impersonal and statistical or personal and anecdotal. The official contours of VCU are easily

outlined and, once assembled, they are startling. In 1981-82, there were 19,927 students at VCU—2,704 on the MCV Campus and 17,223 on the Academic Campus. Over 11,500 people enrolled in the Evening Studies courses. The MCV Hospitals admitted 30,945 patients in 1981. The university employed 11,281 people—making it Virginia's seventh-largest employer.

A listing of VCU's contributions to the larger community, by contrast, would be longer than any article. Isaac Bashevis Singer, Nobel Prize winner in literature, visited Richmond under the sponsorship of the School of the Arts. The Vienna Symphony Orchestra opened its national tour with a concert in Richmond, sponsored by VCU. Virginia residents can avail themselves of some of the most sophisticated medical care in the world, covering fields from organ transplanting to genetic counseling to rehabilitation for patients severely injured in auto accidents. VCU faculty have traveled to China to study urban planning—assisting the Chinese as they plan their megalopolises and bringing their expertise back with them. The physics department has drawn distinguished physicists from all over North America and Europe to a conference on "Hydrogen and Metals."

There are also hundreds of projects, large and small, which have directly involved VCU with the city and state. Students and faculty from the School of Community and Public Affairs helped devise ways to preserve and enhance the Arts District; art students helped redesign city schools; continuing education programs have trained employees of local businesses, local and state governments.

But neither a listing of statistics nor a catalog of services can capture the human flavor of a university, that intangible spirit which grows as skilled individuals meld and amplify their interests in the unpredictable process that biologists call synergism.

Synergism is the energy that fills and threatens to explode the tiny jumbled green cubicle where Barry Shipman works. Shipman is assistant professor of maxillofacial prosthetics at the university. His office is eerily like a scene brought to life out of Martin Cruz Smith's popular novel *Gorky Park*. From every available surface gaze attentive, sightless faces and heads realistically modelled in rubber and latex. But unlike the Soviet pathologist in *Gorky Park*, Shipman does not reconstruct the dead but rehabilitates the living—patients who, through disease or accident, have lost much of their faces and thus much of what makes them feel human. Shipman's training is in dentistry, but since coming to VCU he has discovered with surprise and pleasure how much his work resembles that of artists and sculptors who train at the School of the Arts.

"We have always felt that the skills of an artist might be beneficial to both sides," Shipman said. So five years ago Shipman helped set up an apprenticeship for an M.F.A. candidate from the Academic Campus to help with the design of artificial faces his unit supplies.

The results, Shipman recalls, were exhilarating and sometimes infuriating—the collision of two disciplines and two ways of looking at the world. "In our work, we lost sometimes the insight into what's pretty and what's important to people," he recalled. Shipman retains an interest in using artists' skills in the hospital setting. That interest is shared by William Stewart, assistant dean of graduate studies and professor of art. Stewart meets with Shipman and other medical faculty, seeking to "develop an avenue for artists" to get more deeply involved in the medical center's work. "There is no program that takes artists and puts them into this kind of environment" on a regular basis, he says. "The artist or sculptor is like a surgeon," Stewart points out. "Most of his judgments are visual and spatial. I have talked to a lot of people in dentistry and medicine who have a professional interest in the arts. They say that the dental and medical students should have more exposure to the arts."

There are no sweeping schemes in the air as Stewart and Shipman confer. They are planning beginnings, with unforeseeable results—results which, even after the fact, will be hard to measure and report in a list of statistics or catalogue of accomplishments. But their collaboration is spontaneous—a kind of budding process by which different parts of the university put out tendrils that in time may loop together and merge into roots, and may grow strong enough to break through walls between disciplines and ways of seeing the world. This tentative exploration is one of a university's key functions: assembling the parts of human knowledge into a coherent and surprising whole.

Making the university into a whole is one of the most important goals of VCU's president, Edmund Ackell. Ackell took office in February of 1978. But even before he was offered the job, he says now, he decided that something needed to be done to bring the parts of the institution together. "There was obviously a lack of understanding that this was one university instead of two. I would see people (in the interview process) who had an interest in what the candidate could do for their campus," he said. "There was a lot of 'theirs' and 'ours' and 'we' and 'they' in the discussions prior to my coming here. People were comfortable with the separation and assumed it would continue as it had before."

But Ackell has tried to erode the separation—and the mentality that upheld it—since taking office. In choosing new administrators, he looked for candidates who would implement his philosophy. "I wanted to be sure in my middle areas that we had people who looked on this as one institution and were willing to work that way," he said. "You've got to bring in new people; it's tough to change old attitudes." He also has begun to

integrate administrations, academic standards, and management procedures "to bring in a systems approach that is similar to other major universities."

Equally important has been his attempt to overcome the psychology of separation—the myth that the two campuses are separated by an unbridgeable gulf of history and geography. As for running a university whose two campuses are separated by the downtown area, Ackell says it's not a big deal. "Rather than unique, it (the separation) is commonplace," he says. In fact, he points out, most major universities have medical centers which are separate from their academic campuses: Harvard, Southern California, New York University, and Illinois to name a few. "It's unusual to find an urban university that has its medical center on the main campus."

Ackell seeks, thus, a fusion of the two halves into a unified university with first-rate academic standards, comparable to other major nationally-known urban institutions in reputation and educational philosophy. He is changing the standards for tenure and promotion, and standardizing them on the two campuses. "I think a professor is a professor," he says. And whether he teaches Renaissance history or renal histology, Ackell says what a professor needs to do is to be a good teacher and to perform original research work in a chosen field. "That is my primary goal—that this become a university of distinction."

That message—the need for research and publication—has been heard by the faculty. "If anybody's missing it now," says William Hellmuth, former chairman of the economics department, "they're either blind or deaf. We are slowly joining the mainstream of universities."

But one area of uniqueness remains—the student body. Since the education boom began in the late 1940s, universities have served a young, mobile population, which was collecting educational skills in backpacks before making the trek to that urban frontier beyond the horizon. VCU students don't fit this stereotype. They are older than the average and more closely integrated into their home community. Many are the first members of their families to attend college; many are already married and have children, or have chosen their career path before they enter school. Indeed, many are already working before they begin their studies. The result is a student body with strong roots in central Virginia and little desire to leave.

"I guess if I came up with anything particular in the VCU student," said Rollie Oatley, Jr., former director of placement services on the Academic Campus, "it is that they want to stay home." In addition, he pointed out, a large proportion is already at work. For example, fewer than 10 percent of graduating university M.B.A.s seek placement through the office; most of the rest are already working by the time they graduate.

The VCU difference becomes more striking when one considers that, during a decade when the quality of the student body on both campuses has improved markedly, their attachment to the central Virginia area has grown rather than decreased. In 1972, for example, 31.49 percent of VCU's alumni lived in the Richmond area. By 1980, that number had jumped to 36.81 percent—an increase of more than one-sixth. Plainly there is an interaction between the community and the institution which has proved profitable to both.

Some VCU graduates and faculty find this a source of satisfaction and pride. Julia McLaughlin, assistant professor of psychiatry and staff psychologist at the MCV Hospitals' psychiatric clinic, recalls leaving her home in Halifax, Virginia, with some trepidation. As one of the first students to enter VCU's doctoral psychology program, she was entrusting her professional future to a program with no track record and with no formal accreditation.

Now, a decade later, the VCU program is not only accredited but well established, with a growing national reputation. And McLaughlin is one of those alumnae who, having discovered Richmond, doesn't want to leave. She doesn't feel unusual in this. "A lot of people trained here stay here," she says with satisfaction.

For VCU, of course, this is an untapped source of credibility. VCU can go to funding bodies with a solid record of putting back into the area more than it takes out. "We're strengthening our own population," says Howard Sparks, associate vice-president for academic affairs. "We're bringing them here, educating them, and shipping them back. There is a symbiotic relationship between the institution and the economy."

VCU will need to use this strength to win the race of catch-up it must run. It was created at the tail end of the boom years of higher education. In the 60s new universities opened at a dizzying rate, and tax receipts from the long boom made legislators into rich and indulgent uncles. In the insolvent 80s the uncles have turned into skeptical misers. VCU will have to swim against this tide in the years ahead; it will need to generate strong support from the community, the business sector, and the state.

Much, of course, has been accomplished over the past five years. Louis Saksen, assistant vice-president for facilities management, points out that at the end of 1977 "things were pretty bleak. There was no new funding (for building) in the 76-78 biennium."

Since then VCU has built new dormitories, a 1,000-car parking deck, a Performing Arts Center, a 493-bed hospital, a Cancer Center, and an addition to the MCV Campus gymnasium.

The coming year should see the opening of the new Academic Campus Student Commons (designed to combat the "no-campus blues" which students frequently sing), a rebuilt gymnasium for the Academic Campus, and a new building for pharmacy and pharmacology. But there is still catch-up to play. The older buildings on each campus (48 of which have been designated state historical landmarks) gives VCU its distinctive architectural grace, but they need constant renovation and are expensive to maintain. The Academic Campus, in particular, is still short of classroom space.

In the area of program and curriculum, the story is very similar: remarkable achievement side by side with urgent and overdue need. The growth of the School of Basic Sciences is an example of success. In its 16 years of existence, the school, which encompasses the basic research disciplines necessary to support the teaching and clinical activities on the MCV Campus, has gone from three Ph.D. candidates a year to 33. Its faculty has doubled and the student body has grown eight-fold. Research funds have gone from $700,000 to $12 million. And the school's interdisciplinary approach works. Richard Greenberg, assistant professor of neurosurgery, said that he found the weekly discussions with faculty at the school had managed to "bridge the gap between basic science and neurology." So stimulated was he by the sessions that he has now earned, in addition to his M.D., a Ph.D. in physiology from the school. And the discussions go on. "We know each other so well that the criticisms are pretty tough," he said. "My development has been improved more by this communication than by any other single thing."

But rather than rest on its successes, VCU must now repeat them in other areas, and even established programs will need money to keep up. Murry DePillars, dean of the School of the Arts, points out that computer technologies are revolutionizing arts professions from filmmaking to fashion design. "We have to keep pace with new technologies," he says. "We're kind of going it alone against the larger established universities—and the ante goes up."

To get the funds it needs and to flourish and grow as a magnet for industries and individuals, VCU needs something less tangible as well. Laurin Henry, dean of the School of Community and Public Affairs, makes the political scientist's distinction between an organization and an institution. An institution, he says, has acquired a kind of halo in the eyes of those around it. "Richmond as a whole is not fully conscious of us. We're involved in everything and yet the community or the power structure is only dimly aware of us," he says. "VCU as a whole has not been institutionalized in the Richmond community."

Sparks sees the university as playing a vital historical role between now and the year 2000. The role is vital in the city's change from a place to escape from into a place to escape to, a magnet for new people, and a prosperous and stable home for its natives. "Urban universities," he says, "could be to our era what the land grant colleges were to the 19th century. They ought to do for us what they did for VPI, because we're living in an urban time."

Garrett Epps is author of The Shad Treatment *and a free-lance writer for several national publications including* Science '83.

University News

Reaching out to the community

According to the annual report published by VCU's Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service, the division offered nearly 2,000 continuing education activities during 1981-82 and served an estimated 100,000 individuals.

The report also showed that VCU's Evening Studies offered an average of 900 classes each semester serving over 11,000 students, and the Off-Campus Credit Instruction Program offered 204 classes in locations around the state and enrolled 2,171 students. Programs developed for specific needs of community, business, and industries had 22,000 registrants, while members of the community were given the opportunity to study abroad with VCU students in Russia, England, France, Italy, and Austria.

Howard Sparks, associate vice-president for academic affairs, compiled the report, noting the major role VCU plays in enriching the lives of a large segment of the greater Richmond community.

"The variety and number of continuing education activities that were offered attest to the university's commitment to meeting the diverse educational needs of the community," he said.

VCU recently joined the experimental phase of the National University Teleconferencing Network (NUTN) which, when fully implemented, will make a wider range and greater number of high quality continuing education programs available to the community.

Rural success

The university's Center for Public Affairs is trying to increase the state's chances for "Rural Success."

"Rural Success" is the name of a research project aimed at locating successful employment and training projects throughout rural America and describing them to Virginia's employment and training specialists. The program is sponsored by the Governor's Employment and Training Division.

Through consultation, center researchers will also assist rural areas in the development of employment and training programs. Availability of this service is limited and will be provided on a first-come-first served basis as the research progresses.

Those wishing more information should contact Dr. Anthony J. DeLellis, VCU Center for Public Affairs, 921 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23284, or telephone (804) 257-1521.

Lifting the lid on closed eyes

Blepharospasm. It's not a well-known disorder but its victims can testify to its devastating effect when it causes functional blindness.

In March 1979 Mildred Liniado noticed her right eyelid would involuntarily close, sometimes so hard that it was difficult to raise it. Several months later the same thing began happening to her left eyelid. "I would be driving and I would have to pull over because my eyes would just close," said Liniado. While the episodes lasted only briefly, they were petrifying. By March 1980 she gave up driving.

As the disorder progressed her eyelids closed more tightly and more frequently. She often had to pull her eyelids open with her fingers and sometimes could see only through tiny slits that remained when her lids clamped shut.

Liniado began to feel helpless and vulnerable. "Things became rapidly worse," she said. "I couldn't read or watch TV. I couldn't lift my eyelids." Although nothing was wrong with her eyesight she had, in effect, become blind.

After seeing five ophthalmologists who were unable to diagnose the problem, Liniado's optometrist recommended that she see Dr. John B. Selhorst, associate professor of neurology and ophthalmology at the university. He diagnosed the disorder as essential blepharospasm, or spasm of the eyelids. "Essential" means that its cause is unknown.

According to Selhorst, behavioral scientists have thought for years the blepharospasm was a psychological disorder. Neurologists, however, consider it a movement disorder in the same way Parkinson's disease is a movement disorder. Selhorst said the blepharospasm, like Parkinson's disease, may be the result of a biochemical problem such as a deficiency or excess of a substance involved in transmitting nerve impulses. Whatever its cause, the disease is progressive, tends to occur in middle age, and strikes women more frequently than men.

Two to four new cases are seen each year by three physicians in the Department of Neurology. Treatment appears often to be frustrating for both patients and physicians. Although some drugs work in about 30 to 40 percent of patients, Selhorst says finding the appropriate treatment is still a matter of trial and error.

One surgical method of treatment involves cutting the nerve branches that supply impulses to eyelid muscles. But, says Selhorst, possible undesirable side effects include the inability of eyelids to completely close which, through drying of the cornea, could lead to infections and other complications. Also other facial muscles can be affected

Illustration by Scott Wright

and nerves can regenerate over a period of time, causing the problem to reappear. To patients who are functionally blind, however, the operation's potential problems may be acceptable.

The procedure used in Liniado's case involves removal of most of the eye muscles. While recovering from her operation, Liniado says she has been able to return to her usual activities. She operates her own business and, she says, "I drive, I read, I watch TV, and I function normally."

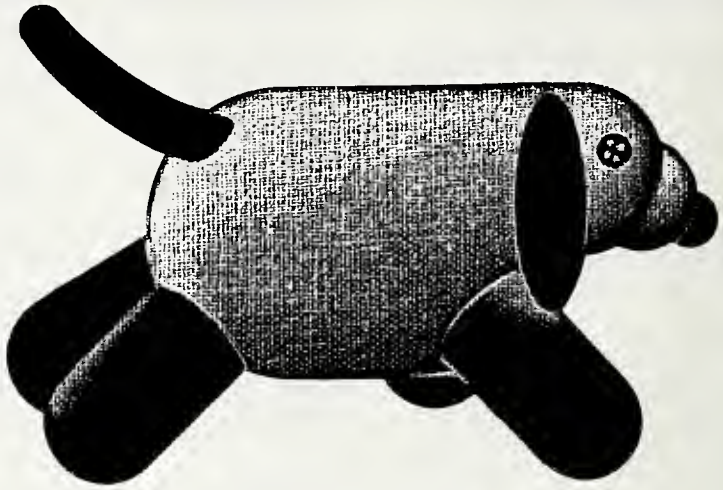
An education for the elderly

The first Elderhostel program sponsored by a medical complex was held this summer on the MCV Campus.

A week-long residential education experience for older adults, Elderhostel is sponsored by universities and colleges throughout the nation and abroad. Participants must be at least 60 years of age or accompanied by a person 60 or over.

Courses offered during this summer's program included "Topics in Medical Ethics," which addressed the right to health care, euthanasia and the right to die, and truth-telling and informed consent. The objective of the course in "Preventive Medicine" was discussion of the basic principles of health maintenance, the prevention of disease, and an application from individual and community viewpoints. "History of Medical Advances" traced the progress of the medical profession particularly as it related to the development of medical instruments.

Participants stayed in Cabaniss Hall with meals provided by the Larrick Center. In addition to classes participants were given time for sightseeing and tours in the Richmond area.



Counteracting loneliness

Dog may be man's best friend, but studies indicate that toy animals may be a close substitute for many institutionalized people who cannot have pets.

Dr. Gloria Francis, professor and research director for the School of Nursing, has conducted studies of the therapeutic value of both domestic animals and their stuffed counterparts. The subjects of her studies have been residents of local adult homes and long-term nursing care facilities.

Francis, who has studied loneliness in institutionalized persons for ten years, had been working on initiating a puppy study in an area nursing home. One nursing home turned her down but said she could use stuffed animals. Francis did not plan to pursue the idea but when an advertising executive called to ask if she would consider doing a study with plush toys, she began to consider the project more seriously.

Kamar International, a toy manufacturer in Torrance, California, offered to provide the stuffed animals and underwrite the project cost, so Francis agreed to do it. Although she felt few aspects of the residents' lives would be affected, she devised a study to examine ten psychosocial aspects. To her surprise, the animals made a significant difference in seven of the areas.

Important improvements were found in psychological well-being, social interaction, mental functioning, efforts in self-care, satisfaction with life, active interest in the world around them, and the amount of depression experienced by residents.

Francis interviewed 22 nursing home residents before and after distributing the stuffed kittens, dogs, horses, monkeys, skunks, mice, and other animals. Professionally accepted questionnaires structured to test certain variables were administered to those residents and a control group of 18 residents who did not receive plush toys.

According to Francis the study cost about $1,100, much less than was allotted. She says she has received some criticism for this kind of behavioral research. However, she thinks if critics could see the emotional deprivation in some nursing homes, they would be excited that such simplistic intervention could significantly alter the well-being of people.

Illustration by Scott Wright

University News

Justice for all

A legal studies program will be offered next fall by VCU's Department of Administration of Justice and Public Safety.

The program is part of a redesigned curriculum recently approved by the university's Committee on Instruction. Career programs are also available in corrections, juvenile justice, and law enforcement.

Legal studies will be geared toward those intending to proceed to law school. "Lawyers are taught a specialist trade," says Dr. David Farmer, chairman of the department. "They rarely have a broad framework of criminal justice."

He considers the new program an unusual approach and one which will provide a framework for subsequent legal studies.

The Department of Administration of Justice and Public Safety currently enrolls 260 undergraduate and 80 graduate students.

A commendation for citizenship

The Virginia Institute for Law and Citizenship Studies was recently honored by the State Board of Education with a Resolution of Commendation.

The resolution cited the institute, which has its headquarters at VCU, for its "efforts in fostering and furthering high-quality programs about the law and legal processes in the elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

The resolution also noted the importance of the institute's goals of aiding students' understanding of law and of leading students to be "more knowledgeable and responsible citizens."

During the past five years the institute has been instrumental in educating thousands of Virginia's students about their legal rights and responsibilities, at little or no cost to school systems, by providing speakers, printed and audio-visual resource materials, and teacher training in substantive law and appropriate instructional methodologies.

The institute was founded in 1978 by a group of young lawyers of the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association who shared their colleagues' concerns for rising juvenile crime rates and young Virginians' disrespect for the law.

Known then as the Law-Related Education (LRE) Program, the organization was funded by a grant from the U.S. Justice Department. It became one of the many educational groups nationwide which strive to incorporate legal studies into the curriculum of public school students.

The LRE Program operated during the 1978-79 school year from the Chesterfield County School System and during 1979-80 from Norfolk Public Schools. In April 1981 the LRE Program incorporated as a nonprofit educational corporation—the Virginia Institute for Law and Citizenship Studies, Inc.—and established headquarters in the university's School of Education.

The program is now funded by grants from the Virginia State Bar, the Virginia Bar Association, the Flagler Foundation, and the Virginia Law Foundation, with supporting funds and services provided by VCU's School of Education.

The institute operates under the supervision of a board of directors, and is endorsed by numerous national, state, and local educational and legal organizations.

Teaching teachers

VCU's School of Education will expand its Bachelor of Science in special education degree program into three additional specializations beginning this fall.

Behavior disorders and emotional disturbances, learning disabilities, and severe and profound handicaps will be added to an existing study track for mental retardation.

The School of Education has been offering the mental retardation track since 1967.

Dr. Rosemary Lambie, core coordinator of special education, said factors which influenced the expansion of the program included a shortage of trained teachers in these specializations, changes in state certification regulations, and employer hiring practices which make training in these areas on the bachelor's degree level desirable.

She said there are numerous job openings for teachers in all areas of special education.

Peak performance

For the second year in a row the university's Jazz Orchestra I has won an Outstanding Performance Award for Big Band at the Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Festival.

VCU's band was one of four to win the designation. The other winners represented the Eastman School of Music, Michigan State University, and the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Delores King, a VCU senior, won an Outstanding Vocalist Award for her performance of "There Will Never Be Another You" and "I Got It Bad." The former number was arranged by drummer Jocko MacNelly and the latter by Doug Richards, director of jazz studies.

In addition to the two tunes with vocals, the Jazz Orchestra I played Duke Ellington's "Rockin' in Rhythm," a Bob Brookman arrangement of "Skylark," Al Cohn's "Some of My Best Friends," and Dizzy Gillespie's "Things to Come."

One of the judges, former *Down Beat* editor Dan Morganstern, described the VCU group as "not one of those well-drilled music machines, but a band with genuine feeling for the tradition, and great spirit and enthusiasm."

University News

Business executives Sydney and Frances Lewis

Trio honored at commencement

Author Tom Wolfe and business executives Sydney and Frances Lewis received honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees at Commencement exercises in the spring.

Pioneer of late 20th century American literature, Wolfe's innovative style and keen insight into American life have earned him numerous awards and honors. After the triumph in 1979 of *The Right Stuff*, his book on the Mercury astronauts, he received the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Harold D. Vursell Memorial Award for prose style, the American Book Award for nonfiction, and the Columbia Journalism Award.

Sydney Lewis, founder, chairman of the board, and executive officer of Best Products Company, Inc., is one of the state's leading business executives. In addition, he is an avid patron of the arts and serves as vice-chairman of the board of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., and a trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

His wife, Frances Lewis, was recognized for her active involvements in education, the arts, and public service for the past 30 years. Executive vice-president of Best, she is a member of the board for Richmond Public Schools, a trustee of the Virginia Environmental Endowment, and a member of the state Committee on Federal Education Block Grants. Like her husband she is a supporter of the arts and serves on the advisory council of the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Arts.

Over 3,200 degrees were awarded at this year's commencement. Of the total, 1,223 were graduate degrees.

Dr. Robert Wilson, retired president and chairman of executive committee of Cargill, Wilson, and Acree, an advertising firm, delivered the graduation address.

Award-winning author Tom Wolfe

Better odds for leukemic children

Research by a university physician may help to improve treatment for some pediatric patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), the most common form of cancer found in children.

The work of Dr. Nancy Dunn, assistant professor of pediatrics, focuses on cellular enzyme changes in patients with ALL and provides an understanding of how these changes aid physicians in making prognoses and designing therapy. Since 1978 Dunn has been investigating three different enzymes. Of the three enzymes, one—hexosaminidase—has provided the most promising results.

As part of the study lymphocytes from blood samples of leukemic patients at MCV Hospitals were tested at the time cancer was diagnosed, and at designated intervals as treatment was administered. Using a laboratory process called column chromatography, enzymes in the samples were broken down into component parts (isoenzymes) and analyzed.

Blood samples from 41 patients with various types of leukemia were studied. The most interesting result was found among patients with the most common immunologic subtype of ALL (leukemic patients are divided into subtypes on the basis of the immunologic properties of their blood cells). Of these 31 patients, 21 were found to have one elevated component (called the I peak) of hexosaminidase at diagnosis. Anti-leukemic treatment was then administered which effectively decreased the I peak to normal levels. Of the three patients who had subsequent relapses while under study, two showed a rise in the component to abnormally high levels.

"The data suggest this enzyme pattern may prove useful as a leu-

Photography by Chip Mitchell

kemia marker—a factor that disappears with treatment and reappears when there is a relapse," said Dunn.

Additional results also indicate the degree of elevation of the I peak component may have prognostic value. Among patients in the study, 16 of 20 with low I peaks remained disease-free for a median of 19 months, while only three of nine with particularly high I peaks remained in remission for nine to 17 months.

Dunn said advances in treatment for leukemic patients helped make her research possible. "Before the 1960s we were seeing children with leukemia dying quickly, giving us little time to study the effects of our intervention over time," Dunn explained. "With longer survival times we are better able to evaluate our treatments."

A major part of the advances in treatment involved the recognition by cancer specialists that certain clinical and laboratory features of leukemia patients could be of prognostic value. With this information research projects like Dunn's were initiated which looked at factors of potential use in predicting outcomes for patients and in directing therapy.

Specific to Dunn's research was the discovery in the 1970s that ALL could be divided into three or four subtypes by immunologic techniques. With these classifications patients can be grouped on the basis of their chances for survival and appropriate treatment regimens administered. For patients with less chance of survival, more aggressive therapy is ordered. "Ultimately, we're trying to improve the odds for these patients," Dunn said.

While the researcher warned her results are in no way definitive, she suggested "hexosaminidase may be a key enzyme in the battle against acute lymphoblastic leukemia." She plans to continue her research with funding she is seeking from several national organizations. A $100,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute, which expired in February, provided the original funds for the research. With the new funding Dunn hopes to uncover additional information which will help thwart a form of leukemia which accounts for more than 80 percent of all childhood leukemia cases.

Training future journalists

For the tenth consecutive year VCU's School of Mass Communications has been awarded a grant from The Newspaper Fund to conduct a summer Editing Internship Program for the Southeast region.

At least 50 interns are selected for the program from more than 500 applicants in a national search. They are assigned to various universities depending on the location of participating newspapers. Each university holds a two-week crash course in headline writing, copy editing, and layout before the interns begin work.

Dr. William Turpin, director of VCU's program, said 12 interns were assigned to VCU last year. They worked on copy desks at *The Washington Post*, *Newport News Times-Herald*, Norfolk's *Ledger-Star* and *Virginian Pilot*, both the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and *News Leader*, *Atlanta Journal*, *Orlando Sentinel*, *Tampa Tribune*, *West Palm Beach Post*, *Miami News*, and the *Waco (Texas) Tribune-Herald*.

"Not all of last year's participating newspapers will be used this year," said Turpin, "because no more than 12 should be involved in any one program."

VCU is one of five universities participating in the program which introduces college juniors to copy-editing on newspapers throughout the country. Other institutions include New York University, Temple University, Ohio State University, and University of Missouri.

Staying in line

Extremely small doses of a deadly toxin usually associated with food poisoning may be used to strengthen crossed eyes.

Dr. Keith W. McNeer, clinical professor of ophthalmology, is one of several investigators involved in a study of nonsurgical means for correcting this particular eye alignment problem. Dozens of people have been treated with good results according to the study directed by the Smith-Kettlewell Institute for Visual Science in San Francisco.

During traditional surgery for strabismus, or crossed eyes, the ophthalmologist loosens or tightens specific eye muscles to balance their forces on the eye. The same effect can be achieved by injecting a few billionths of a gram of the toxin directly into the eye muscle. The toxin weakens the muscle and the opposing muscle takes up the slack. According to the theory behind the procedure the weaker muscle will strengthen and adjust while the overactive muscle is paralyzed for several weeks.

Over 75 patients on which the procedure has been used have experienced a permanent reduction in misalignment. The first patient was injected more than four years ago, and the defect has remained corrected.

Reports indicate that side effects have been restricted to transient drooping of the eyelid in some patients. The entire procedure takes five to ten minutes, and one or more injections may be required depending upon the patient.

Of the six types of toxin, Type A, which is commonly involved in botulism cases, is the one used in treating strabismus.

University News

Alaskan art

Paul Steucke (B.F.A. commercial art 1962) is one of 33 artists from Alaska being featured in an exhibit of 100 original paintings and prints in Washington, D.C.

The exhibit, which is on display in the Russell Senate Office Building across from the U.S. Capitol, commemorates the 25th anniversary of Alaskan statehood. Many of the works are being seen in the United States for the first time.

Steucke, a fine artist and graphic designer, resides in Anchorage. He has received two competitive art fellowships from the Virginia Museum and has had numerous shows and exhibits in Alaska and Richmond. Steucke has also designed publications and symbols and provided illustrations for several large national magazines.

Stress and the herpes victim

Is there a relationship between a herpes victim's mental state and the frequency of the disease's recurrence? A study being undertaken at the university will attempt to find out.

Paul Silver, a graduate student seeking a doctorate in VCU's clinical psychology program, will lead an effort to establish whether or not stress, the individual's method of coping with it, and the support he or she receives are factors in the frequency and severity of herpetic sores.

Studies conducted elsewhere have shown that some herpes victims have periodic depression and a sense of isolation. Emotional difficulties reported have included impotence or diminished sexual drive, plus self-destructive feelings.

Some victims indicated herpes was a factor in the dissolution of a marriage or long-standing relationship, or in loss of a potential relationship after the other party was told about the disease. Others said their work performance suffered as a result of lost self-esteem.

The VCU study will test possible emotional problems caused by having the disease, but will also seek evidence of a possible correlation between emotional dysfunction and the frequency and severity of herpes symptoms' recurrence.

Pharmacology professorship

VCU's Medical College of Virginia has received a grant of $50,000 from Sterling Drug Inc. to establish a Sterling Drug Visiting Professorship in the Department of Pharmacology.

The grant was made in honor of Dr. Louis S. Harris, a distinguished research scientist and educator in the field of pharmacology.

Sterling established the Visiting Professorship Program in 1979 to promote the exchange of knowledge between colleges and universities in the field of pharmacology. Proceeds from the endowment enable the school to invite a guest professor to the campus for one week each year to present lectures, conduct workshops and seminars, and participate in other educational sessions. The award in Harris' name is the tenth Visiting Professorship awarded by Sterling to leading universities.

Harris, who has been a professor and chairman of pharmacology at the university since 1972, is author or co-contributor to more than 200 scientific publications dealing with pharmacology, chemistry and drugs. Among his more general writings is an article on analgesics for the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Before coming to VCU Harris was professor at the University of North Carolina and a researcher at the Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute. While at Sterling-Winthrop, Harris helped develop Talwin, the first successful strong analgesic with a reduced dependency risk.

The Department of Pharmacology currently enrolls 30 graduate and 15 postdoctoral students, making it one of the largest training programs in the United States. The pharmacology department is one of only two centers in the country that evaluates new drugs for abuse potential.

Sterling Drug Inc., a New York City based firm, manufactures and markets worldwide a broad range of pharmaceutical specialties, proprietary medicines, cosmetics, household and industrial products, and environmental controls.

Newsmakers

Dr. Clive Baumgarten, assistant professor of physiology, has received an established investigatorship award for a five-year period by the Research Committee and the American Heart Association. The award extends through June 1988.

Dr. Lynn Bloom, chairman of the Department of English, is coauthor of a book titled *American Autobiography: A Bibliography, 1945-1980* (University of Wisconsin Press, November 1982). This volume provides annotations and a comprehensive index to 5,000 published and reissued works of diaries, collections of letters, statesmans' papers, and travel volumes, as well as more conventional autobiographies.

Dr. Gordon Bronitsky, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, organized and was chairman of the annual meeting of American Anthropological Association's symposia on "Material Transformations of Religion and Pottery Technology: Ideas and Approaches."

Timothy Byrne, assistant professor and assistant reference librarian, has been elected vice-president/president-elect of the Virginia Library Association.

Carol Cummins-Collier, coordinator of residence education, has been elected to the American College Personnel Association's Commission III directorate body.

Carl Emswiller, Jr., assistant clinical director of pharmacy, has been named the 1983 recipient of the Daniel B. Smith Award of the American Pharmaceutical Association Academy of Pharmacy Practice.

Melanie Feduska, assistant reference librarian and instructor of library science, has won the 1982 Bibliographic Retrieval Services' Pre-Medicine Database original paper contest with "The ISSN and the Permanent Save: The Creme de la PREM." Her article will be published in *BRS Bulletin.*

Dr. Michael Fine, assistant professor of biology, has published "Testosterone Uptake in the Brainstem of Sound Producing Fish" in *Science* magazine.

Dr. Charles Gallagher, associate professor of economics, has been elected to the executive committee of the National Association of Economic Educators.

Dr. David Geary, associate professor of administration of justice and public safety, has been selected as the on-site external evaluator to study and report on the graduate and undergraduate degree programs offered by the criminal justice department of California State University.

Joanne Greathouse, assistant professor and chairman of radiation sciences, has been selected for inclusion in the 1982 edition of *Outstanding Young Women of America.*

Dr. Robert Hall, assistant professor of medical oncology, has been named a John A. and George L. Hartford Fellow by the John A. Hartford Foundation. The fellowship includes a three-year research grant of $105,000 as well as a stipend to Hall's sponsoring institution for research expenses.

Dr. James Kinney, associate professor of English, is senior author of the textbook *Understanding Writing* published by Random House. He has also been named director of composition and rhetoric for the Department of English.

Lynn McAuley, instructor in the reference department of Cabell Library, has won the American Library Association's national 3M/JMRT Professional Development Grant.

Dr. Francis Macrina, associate professor of microbiology, and **Martin Graham,** assistant professor of pediatrics, were included in an article,"Room at the Top," in the January 1983 *Commonwealth* magazine. From many nominations *Commonwealth* selected a group of 25 of "Virginia's best and brightest." Macrina was cited for his research in gene technology and Graham for his research on special nutrition problems in children.

Philip Meggs, chairman of the Department of Communication Arts and Design, has published *A History of Graphic Design.* The book covers the history of graphic design from the era of pictographs to today's computer-generated displays.

Dr. William Miller, professor of pediatrics, has been appointed to the American Heart Association's program committee and will serve as chairman of its nutrition program subcommittee.

Dr. James Moore, associate professor and chairman of the Department of History and Geography, has published "Three Who Dared: Virginia's Outstanding Governors of the Twentieth Century" in *Virginia Cavalcade.*

Dr. Margaret Peischl, assistant professor of German, had her book, *Das Dämonische im Werk Theodor Storm,* published in Europe.

Ann Robbins, director of the dietetic internship program, has been elected to the Commission of Dietetic Registration of the American Dietetic Association for a three-year term.

Louis Saksen, assistant vice-president for facilities management, has been appointed to the Richmond Port Authority as the engineering representation authority.

Dr. James Terner, assistant professor of chemistry, recently published "Piosecond Time-Resolved Resonance Ramon Spectroscopy of the Photolysis of Oxyhemoglobin" in Berlin, West Germany.

Dr. Gaynelle Whitlock, assistant dean, School of Education, has been appointed to the Task Force on Graduate Programs in Education by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

Alumni Update

1931

Carl W. LaFratta (M.D.) of Richmond is a part-time associate professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation for the university. He is also consultant physician for the Hampton Veterans Administration Medical Center, the McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center, and the Virginia Home.

1933

E. Claiborne Robins (B.S. pharmacy, honorary doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences, 1958) has received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the pharmacy division of the MCV Alumni Association of VCU. Robins is chairman of the board of A. H. Robins Company in Richmond.

1935

Solomon Disick (M.D.) has been elected to the Board of Trustees of Centre Community Hospital of State College, Pennsylvania. He also has been reappointed to the Bio-Med Review and Protocol Boards of Pennsylvania State University.

1940

Ruth S. Jones (M.S. social work) is a retired social worker in Richmond.

1941

Linwood S. Leavitt (B.S. pharmacy) has retired from the pharmacy he owned with his partner, **Robert W. Clyburn** (B.S. pharmacy 1953). Leavitt is a past president of the VPhA and was the VPhA Pharmacist of the Year in 1976.

William Roy Smith (B.S. pharmacy), pharmacist and former Virginia state legislator from Petersburg, recently received the sixth annual American Pharmaceutical Association's Hubert H. Humphrey Award. The award recognizes Smith's major contribution to legislative service.

1942

Mary Cibula Evans (B.S. nursing) has retired as assistant director of nursing services for operating room/recovery room at MCV Hospitals.

1945

Martin Sheintock (D.D.S.) has been elected a fellow in the International College of Dentists.

1947

Eva Fleming Scott (B.S. pharmacy) of Amelia, Virginia, has served 12 years in the Virginia General Assembly. She is the first woman ever elected to the Virginia Senate.

1949

Nikki Carlisch Fairman (B.S. sociology) is working with the Science Museum of Virginia in the membership/group sales division.

1952

Dewey H. Bell, Jr. (D.D.S.) recently received the Harry Lyons Award presented by the Richmond Dental Society to its most outstanding members.

Albert Goldstein (M.S.W., B.S. social science 1950) was recently honored as the first recipient of the Society for Clinical Social Work's Social Worker of the Year in California Award.

1953

Reginald R. Cooper (M.D.) has been appointed to a four-year term on the National Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Advisory Council by Health and Human Services. He is chairman of the Department of Orthopedics, University of Iowa College of Medicine, and chief of rehabilitation medical service of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa.

John T. Kelly (D.D.S.) has been awarded a fellowship by the American College of Dentists of Las Vegas.

1954

Edward Norris (M.S. graduate studies) has been named director of administrative services at West Chester State College in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Norris, who received his doctorate at Temple University, is a former professor and coordinator of graduate studies at the college.

1956

Naomi Payne (B.S. business education) has received an Exceptional Performance Award from the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency at Fort Lee, Virginia. The award recognizes her exceptional achievement as a writer/editor with the agency's Public Affairs Office.

Larry C. Smith (M.D.) has been appointed to the council of the Southern Medical Association to serve the 1983 term.

Alumni Update

1957

J. D. Drinkard (M.D. 1957) has been elected chairman of the Council of Medical and Chirurgical Society of Maryland, the state medical society.

1962

J. Wilson Ames, Jr. (D.D.S.) has been awarded a fellowship by the American College of Dentists in Las Vegas.

Carl F. Emswiller, Jr. (B.S. pharmacy) has been awarded the 1983 Daniel B. Smith Award by the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Harold A. Hatch (B.S. business education) is a lieutenant general in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is deputy chief of staff responsible for installations and logistics.

1964

Judith F. Bornhold (B.S. business) operates a wholesale nutrition company with her husband in Panama City, Florida.

G. David Eddleman (M.M. composition) is employed as a senior editor with Silver Burdett Company in Rockaway, New Jersey.

1965

William Thomas Mace (B.S. business management) has been named a vice-president by the Home Beneficial Life Insurance Company in Richmond.

1966

D. Michael Kent (B.S. pharmacy) is a member of the Board of Directors of Southwest Virginia Health Systems Agency, Inc.

1967

Edward J. Kerns (.B.F.A. fine arts) has been granted tenure by Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. He is associate professor and head of the art department at the college.

Kent English (B.F.A. commercial art) recently displayed several of his paintings, photographs, and mixed media works in a one-person exhibition at Salisbury State College.

William E. Middleton (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been appointed assistant commissioner of management support by the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services.

1968

Edmond S. Pittman (B.S. accounting) has been elected vice-president and treasurer of Morton G. Thalhimer, Inc. in Richmond. He is responsible for internal administration and financial management of the company.

Robert M. Thornton (B.S. business management) has been promoted to vice-president of the commercial and industrial realty firm of Harvey Lindsay and Company in Norfolk, Virginia. He joined the firm in 1980.

1969

Irwin M. Becker (D.D.S.) of Miami, Florida, has been appointed associate director of clinical education at the L. D. Pankey Institute.

Gerald A. Masini (A.S. electrical electronics) has been promoted to Central Division Customer Engineering Supervisor by the Virginia Electric and Power Company.

R. Paul McCauley (B.S. law enforcement) has been elected second vice-president of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. He is professor and chairman of the Department of Criminology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Robert L. Norfleet (.B.S. accounting) has been named corporate controller by High's Ice Cream Corporation. High's is the largest and oldest ice cream chain in the eastern United States and operates 40 stores in the Tidewater, Virginia, area.

O. Ralph Puccinelli, Jr. (M.S. business, B.S. 1964) has been awarded the CLU (certified life underwriter) and the ChFC (chartered financial consultant) designations by the American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Kenneth F. Smith (B.F.A. communication arts and design) won an Academy Award in the visual effects category for the movie "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial." He was primarily responsible for the movie's optical effects and trick photography. In addition to "E.T." Smith has worked on "The Empire Strikes Back."

Robert S. Wait (B.S. business administration) has been named second vice-president for fixed income by Continental Financial Services.

1970

Charlotte Fitch (B.S. physical therapy) and her husband, Dennis Yutchishen, have established Blue Ridge Rehabilitation Associates in Charlottesville, Virginia, to offer physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and counseling services.

Linda Buchanan Johnson (B.S. business administration) has been promoted to vice-president of commercial loans at Womens Bank in Richmond. She joined the firm in 1980 as vice-president of credit administration.

Alumni Update

1971

Robert Stelmach (B.F.A. dramatic art and speech) had one of his poems accepted for publication by a small Virginia press. His first collection of poetry, "Where is the you in the I of me?" is to be published this year.

James W. Thweatt, Jr. (B.S. pharmacy) is director of pharmacy services at Clinch Valley Community Hospital in Richlands, Virginia.

1972

Quentin L. Corbett (B.S. management) has been named an executive vice-president and senior administrative officer with the Bank of Middlesex. He formerly served as vice-president of marketing at Southern Bank in Richmond.

Theodore Fadoel, Jr. (B.S. business administration) has joined the Bank of Virginia as assistant vice-president and manager of the bank's new discount brokerage operation. He formerly served as an investment executive with Paine Webber.

William C. Nelson (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been appointed to a three-year term on the National General Educational Development Advisory Committee.

Reverend J. Stephen O'Brien (M.Ed. administration and supervision) has been appointed to an executive directorship in the National Catholic Educational Association.

James W. Patterson (M.D.) is associate professor of dermatology and pathology and director of dermatopathology at VCU.

Danny R. Robinson (B.S. management) is employed as a technical training manager with Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corporation in Macon, Georgia.

1973

Archer L. Baskerville (M.D., pharmacy 1969) has been elected a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology. He is in private practice with Richmond Cardiology Associates, Inc., of Richmond.

Doug Futrell (B.S. pharmacy) has been named pharmacist for Eckerd Drugs in Pulaski, Virginia. He formerly worked with Pulaski Drugs and Radford Professional Pharmacy.

Robert M. Litt (M.D.) is practicing radiology at Sunrise Hospital in Las Vegas.

1974

Edward D. Barlow B.S. business administration and management) has been named president of Boxes to Size, Inc.

Diana Juarez Philbeck (B.F.A. interior design) represented VCU at the inauguration of David C. LeShana as president of Pacific University in Seattle in the spring.

1975

MaryBeth Bartter (master of urban and regional planning) has joined CARE, the international aid and development organization. She will spend one year in Somalia working on a refugee feeding program and various other pilot projects sponsored by the Somalian government, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), and CARE.

1976

William C. DeRusha (B.S. accounting) has been named president of Heilig-Myers Company, a Richmond-based furniture retailer.

Harlean B. Snead (B.S. business administration) has been named treasurer and a director by Wilson Freed Company in Richmond. She has worked for the company since 1981 and served most recently as controller.

Sally A. Gravely (B.S. mass communications) has been appointed to the board of directors of Showtimers, the community theatre in Roanoke, Virginia. She is responsible for publicity for the 1983-84 season.

James Thomas Wilson III (M.D.) has been named Young Alumnus of the Year by Emory and Henry College in Emory, Virginia. The award recognizes his distinctive achievements in the field of neurology with newborn and premature infants.

1977

Harold Brooks (B.S. business administration and management) has been named to the Federal National Mortgage Association's regional advisory board. He is senior vice-president with First and Merchants Mortgage Corporation.

Alyson Ann Curco (B.S mass communications) is employed as a technical director with G. E. Broadcasting-WGRB, a television station in Schenectady, New York.

Lon R. Davis (B.F.A. communication arts and design) has accepted a position as art director with Foote, Cone, and Belding in Los Angeles. Davis was formerly with the Dixon Group, an advertising firm in Norfolk, Virginia.

E. Thomas Doub (M.Ed. administration) is employed by Henrico County Schools as director of athletics at Varina High School.

Teresa A. Garland (B.F.A. communication arts and design) is working as a communications director for Representative Steve Bartlett (R-Texas) in the United States House of Representatives.

Bernie Maron (M.S. insurance) has been recognized by the American Academy of Actuaries as

Alumni Update

a qualified health service corporation actuary. Maron, plan director of actuarial and underwriting with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Northwest Ohio, is one of only 30 persons across the country to receive this recognition.

Rings

Class Rings

If you failed to buy a class ring as a student, you can now order one. Rings for men and women are available in a variety of sizes. For more information and a price list, write for a ring order kit. If you graduated before 1968, please indicate Medical College of Virginia, if appropriate, when ordering a kit. The request should be mailed to:

Alumni Activities Office
Ring Order Kit
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA 23284

David W. Norris (M.A. English/English education, B.S. English 1975) has received an award from the McGraw-Hill Employee Suggestion Award Program. His suggestion has led to a more efficient method which F. W. Dodge reporters now use in gathering information about building contractors.

1978

Jackie Bailey (B.F.A. education) has been invited to be a fellow in arts management at the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C. She is coordinator of 1708 East Main in Richmond, the state's only nonprofit, artist-run gallery.

Kathy Fogg Berry (B.S. mass communications) has received her master's in religious education from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Willie A. Berry III (B.S. mass communications) has received a master of divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Suzie Bird (B.F.A. communications arts and design) is a vice-president of Davis and Davis Marketing, Inc. in Richmond.

Kevin H. Ferguson (M.S. sociology) has been appointed registrar at Rosemont College in Rosemont, Pennsylvania.

Christopher E. Pollard (B.S. marketing) has been named national salesman of the year for 1982 by Lumex, Inc. in Bay Shore, New York. Lumex is a manufacturer of medical equipment and health care seating.

Diane F. Saccone (medical technology) is a technical sales representative for Flow Laboratories, Inc., in Washington, D.C.

Stephen Salyards (B.S. psychology) has been promoted to professional/specialist trainee by the U.S. Postal Service. He expects to begin graduate school at George Washington University in the fall.

Charles W. Suttenfield (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been appointed vocational rehabilitation counselor by the Richmond Pain Clinic, Inc.

1979

John Alspaugh (B.S. English), poet and author of *Everything Dark is a Doorway*, received the National Society of Arts and Letters Award for Poetry for 1981. A nominee for last year's Pulitzer Prize in literature, his newest novel should be available in the fall.

Claudette Black McDaniel (M.S. administration of justice and public safety) has been appointed to the human development policy steering committee of the National League of Cities.

Brian M. Pelzman (B.S. administration of justice and public safety) is working as an assistant state attorney in Dade County, Florida.

Sarah Belk Rian (M.A. art history, B.F.A. art education, 1976) is a freelance writer based in New York City. She formerly served as wine and food editor with *House and Garden*.

Kenneth M. Scruggs (M.P.A., B.S. accounting, 1970) has been appointed to a three-year term on the Committee for Professional Development of the State Department of Personnel and Training. He is county administrator for King George County, Virginia.

Thomas S. Wash (B.S. information systems, A.S. 1977) has been named a vice-president by Wheat, First Securities, Inc. in Richmond.

1980

Randi Tamas Bass (M.F.A.) is studying papermaking at the Beer-Shera Center for the Arts in Beer-Shera, Israel.

Alumni Update

Moving?

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Name

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City

State Zip Code

Send to:
Alumni Records Officer
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA 23284
(804) 257-1228

Important note: If this magazine is addressed to an alumnus who no longer lives at the address printed on the address label, please advise us so that we can correct our records. If you know the person's correct address, we would appreciate that information. Also, if a husband and wife are receiving more than one copy of the magazine, we would like to know so that we can avoid duplicate mailings. Please provide the names of both individuals plus the wife's maiden name, if appropriate.

Robert V. Crowder III (M.H.A.) has been named assistant executive director of Virginia Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg, Virginia. He formerly served as assistant administrator for Memorial Hospital in Danville.

Jacqueline Peet Giri (B.F.A. art history) has started her own business called Giri Associates, a software computer company. She has been elected co-chairperson of the state Legislative Committee of the state AAUW.

Prasad P. V. Giri (M.S. business) is employed by First and Merchants as a systems consultant. He recently won the Best Paper Award from ICCM at its international conference.

Bruce Hornstein B.F.A. communication art and design) owns Pyramid Studios, Inc., a multi-image programs, special effects, and visual presentations firm, in Richmond.

Sharon A. Suprun (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been promoted to GS-9 by the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency in Fort Lee, Virginia. She also received an exceptional service award in recognition of outstanding performance of her duties as a management analyst.

Uta M. Whitby (B.S. mass communications) has received an Exceptional Performance Award from the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency in Fort Lee, Virginia. The award recognizes her outstanding performance of duties as an editorial clerk.

1981

Edith McKlveen (M.A. English/English education, B.A. English, 1976) is a poet in the Richmond area. She is co-author of a book of poetry titled *Oaths of a New Wilderness.*

Gail Timberlake (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been named International Correctional Educator of the Year by the Correctional Education Association.

Lost Alumni

We've lost some alumni and we'd like to find them. If you are any of these persons, or if you know their whereabouts, please contact us so we can update our records.

Michael R. Allen (B.S. retailing 1968)
Last known address: Hanahan, South Carolina

Barbara J. Bellman (B.S. occupational therapy 1953)
Last known address: Chantilly, Virginia

Harriette Leef Clark (B.F.A. commercial art 1965)
Last known address: Richmond, Virginia

Virginia Floyd Taylor (M.D. 1980)
Last known address: Richmond, Virginia

Arthur J. Forman (M.D. 1972)
Last known address: Tampa, Florida

Cecil Earnest Goode, Jr. (B.S. sociology 1969)
Last known address: Richmond, Virginia

Carl R. Jennings, Jr. (B.S. elementary education 1968)
Last known address: Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Ruth A. King (B.S. nursing 1926)
Last known address: Memphis, Tennessee

Ann E. Mann (certificate, x-ray technology 1973)
Last known address: Richmond, Virginia

Bo Hai Woo (M.D. 1976)
Last known address: Lexington, Kentucky

Please send information to:
Alumni Records Officer
Virginia Commonwealth University
828 West Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23284
(804) 257-1227

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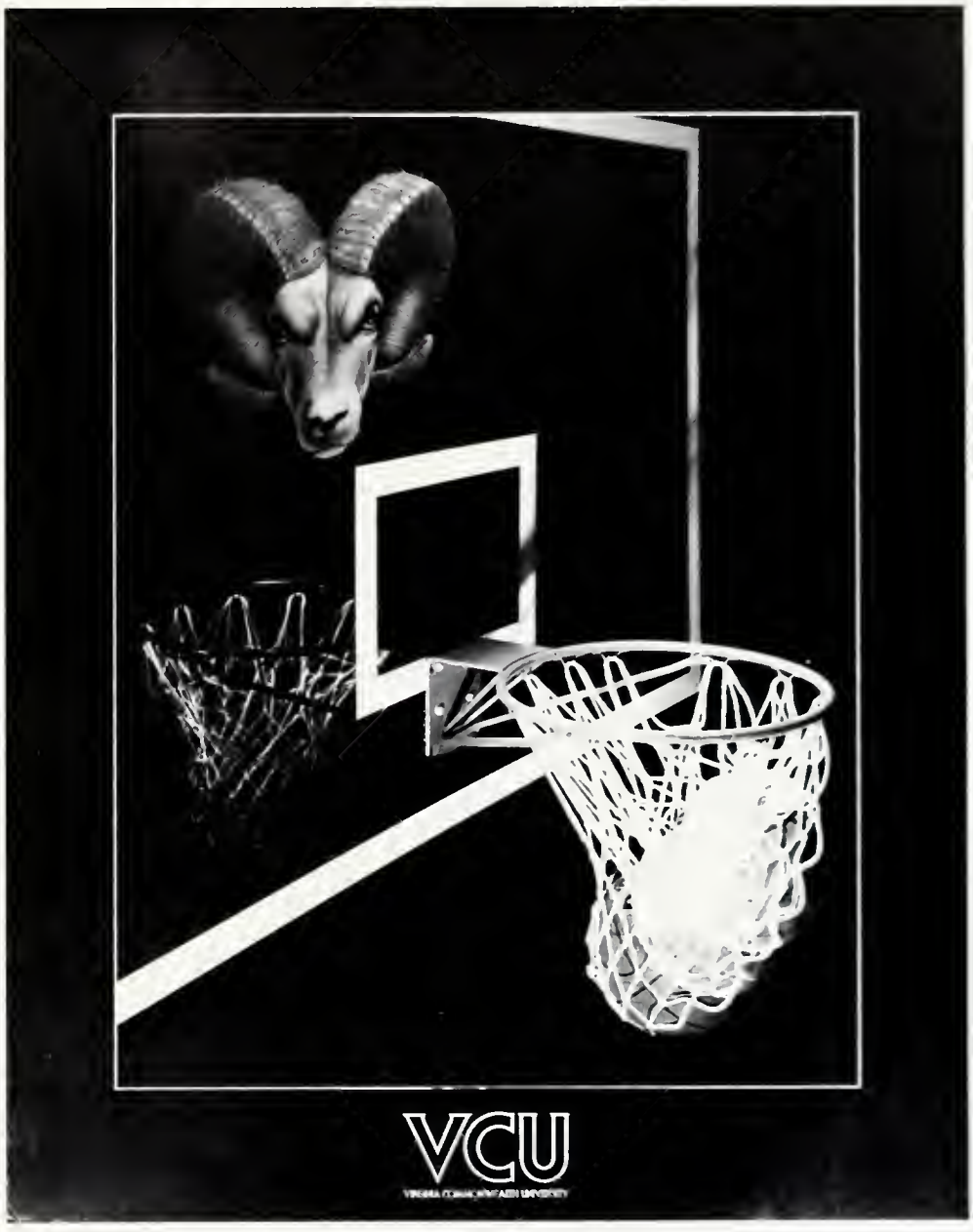

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